

~~Sub B, 7~~ 18. A system for picking up objects over a delimited surface, which consists of an automatic mobile machine provided with an onboard computer, at least one motor associated with a power source, a mechanical device for gripping and storing objects in a container supported by the mobile machine, a device for emptying said container, a device for limiting the pick up surface and at least one station in which the picked up objects may be unloaded.

~~19. A system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the power source is a rechargeable battery and wherein there is provided at least one station for recharging rechargeable batteries.~~

~~20. A system as claimed in claim 19, wherein the battery recharging and the object unloading stations are coupled.~~

~~21. A system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the objects are golf balls.~~

~~22. A system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the surface limiting device consists of a wire extending at the periphery of said surface and being detectable by a detector carried by the machine.~~

~~Sub B, 7~~ 23. A system as claimed in claim 22, wherein the machine reaches the at least one station by following the surface limiting wire, the at least one station being situated along said wire or on an extension thereof.

24. A system as claimed in claim 19, wherein the recharging station consists of at least one fixed rail which is situated along said wire and is adapted to come in contact with one of two side brushes carried by the mobile machine.

B, 25. A system as claimed in claim 19, characterized in that the at least one recharging station is situated in the proximity of persons using the system.

26. A system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the at least one station comprises a ball recovery bowl, equipped with a ball lifting system, and connected to a duct which is adapted to convey balls at least partly by gravity.

27. A system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the automatic machine proceeds over the delimited pick up surface at least partly in a random manner.

28. A system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the mechanical gripping system consists of a rotary brush having spikes arranged radially around a shaft of said brush, said spikes being adapted to pierce the objects situated on said surface, and said objects being dragged along into a circular movement, released from the spikes by fixed elements which are engaged between the spikes, and direct the objects toward a storage device.

29. A system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the picked up objects are dead leaves.

30. A system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the picked up objects are paper sheets.

31. A system as claimed in claim 18, wherein there is also included on the mobile machine an automatic system for mowing a grass surface.

32. An automatic pick up machine adapted to the system as claimed in claim 18.

33. A machine as claimed in claim 32, characterized in that it includes deflector arms which are adapted to direct the objects to be picked up toward the gripping device, as the machine proceeds.

~~Sub B, 7~~ 34. A method of picking up objects over a predetermined surface, by using the system of claim 18.

35. A method of picking up objects over a predetermined surface, by using the machine as claimed in claim 18.

10030745-121401